PUBLIC NOTICE FOR FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICE ANNOUNCING NEW NATIONWIDE PERMITS

On March 12, 2007, in Part II of the Federal Register (72 FR 11092), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) announced the reissuance of all existing Nationwide Permits (NWPs), general conditions, and definitions with some modifications. The Corps also issued six new NWPs, two new general conditions, and 13 new definitions. The NWPs became effective on March 19, 2007.

After the publication of this Federal Register notice, Corps districts will begin finalizing their regional conditions for the new and reissued NWPs. Regional conditions will provide additional protection for the aquatic environment, by ensuring that the NWPs authorize only those activities with minimal adverse effects on the aquatic environment. Regional conditions will help ensure protection of high value waters within the District.

The publication of this Federal Register notice also begins the 60-day period for states, Indian Tribes, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to complete their water quality certification (WQC) process for the NWPs. This Federal Register notice also provides a 60-day period for coastal states to complete their Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) consistency determination processes. This 60-day period will end on May 11, 2007.

While the states, Indian Tribes, and EPA complete their WQC processes, the use of an NWP to authorize a discharge into waters of the United States is contingent upon obtaining individual water quality certification or a case-specific WQC waiver. Likewise, while states complete their CZMA consistency determination processes, the use of an NWP to authorize an activity within, or outside, a state's coastal zone that will affect land or water uses or natural resources of that state's coastal zone, is contingent upon obtaining an individual CZMA consistency determination, or a case-specific presumption of CZMA concurrence.

The March 12, 2007, Federal Register notice is available for viewing at Vicksburg District Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, 4155 Clay Street, Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435, or on the Internet at http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecwo/reg/nwp/nwp 2007 final.pdf.

As an alternate, World Wide Web users can access the *Federal Register* through the U.S. Government Printing Office at http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html.

The Corps has also issued final decision documents for the new and reissued NWPs. These documents are also available on the Internet at

http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecwo/reg/nwp/nwp final.htm and Corps district offices. Furthermore, the NWP decision documents will be supplemented by Division Engineers to address decisions concerning regional conditioning of the NWPs.

The following includes an index of the NWPs, the NWP General Conditions, and Definitions:

Index of Nationwide Permits, Conditions, Further Information, and Definitions

Nationwide Permits

- 1. Aids to Navigation
- 2. Structures in Artificial Canals
- 3. Maintenance
- 4. Fish and Wildlife Harvesting, Enhancement, and Attraction Devices and Activities
- 5. Scientific Measurement Devices
- 6. Survey Activities
- 7. Outfall Structures and Associated Intake Structures
- 8. Oil and Gas Structures on the Outer Continental Shelf
- 9. Structures in Fleeting and Anchorage Areas
- 10. Mooring Buoys
- 11. Temporary Recreational Structures
- 12. Utility Line Activities
- 13. Bank Stabilization
- 14. Linear Transportation Projects
- 15. U.S. Coast Guard Approved Bridges
- 16. Return Water From Upland Contained Disposal Areas
- 17. Hydropower Projects
- 18. Minor Discharges
- 19. Minor Dredging
- 20. Oil Spill Cleanup
- 21. Surface Coal Mining Operations
- 22. Removal of Vessels
- 23. Approved Categorical Exclusions
- 24. Indian Tribe or State Administered Section 404 Programs
- 25. Structural Discharges

- 26. [Reserved]
- 27. Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities
- 28. Modifications of Existing Marinas
- 29. Residential Developments
- 30. Moist Soil Management for Wildlife
- 31. Maintenance of Existing Flood Control Facilities
- 32. Completed Enforcement Actions
- 33. Temporary Construction, Access, and Dewatering
- 34. Cranberry Production Activities
- 35. Maintenance Dredging of Existing Basins
- 36. Boat Ramps
- 37. Emergency Watershed Protection and Rehabilitation
- 38. Cleanup of Hazardous and Toxic Waste
- 39. Commercial and Institutional Developments
- 40. Agricultural Activities
- 41. Reshaping Existing Drainage Ditches
- 42. Recreational Facilities
- 43. Stormwater Management Facilities
- 44. Mining Activities
- 45. Repair of Uplands Damaged by Discrete Events
- 46. Discharges in Ditches
- 47. Pipeline Safety Program Designated Time Sensitive Inspections and Repairs
- 48. Existing Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Activities
- 49. Coal Remining Activities
- 50. Underground Coal Mining Activities

Nationwide Permit General Conditions

- 1. Navigation
- 2. Aquatic Life Movements
- 3. Spawning Areas
- 4. Migratory Bird Breeding Areas
- 5. Shellfish Beds
- 6. Suitable Material
- 7. Water Supply Intakes
- 8. Adverse Effects from Impoundments
- 9. Management of Water Flows
- 10. Fills Within 100-Year Floodplains
- 11. Equipment
- 12. Soil Erosion and Sediment Controls
- 13. Removal of Temporary Fills
- 14. Proper Maintenance
- 15. Wild and Scenic Rivers
- 16. Tribal Rights

- 17. Endangered Species
- 18. Historic Properties
- 19. Designated Critical Resource Waters
- 20. Mitigation
- 21. Water Quality
- 22. Coastal Zone Management
- 23. Regional and Case-by-Case Conditions
- 24. Use of Multiple Nationwide Permits
- 25. Transfer of Nationwide Permit Verifications
- 26. Compliance Certification
- 27. Pre-Construction Notification
- 28. Single and Complete Project

Further Information

- 1. District Engineers have authority to determine if an activity complies with the terms and conditions of an NWP.
- 2. NWPs do not obviate the need to obtain other federal, state, or local permits, approvals, or authorizations required by law.
- 3. NWPs do not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges.
- 4. NWPs do not authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.
- 5. NWPs do not authorize interference with any existing or proposed Federal project.

Definitions

Best management practices (BMPs)
Compensatory mitigation
Currently serviceable
Discharge
Enhancement
Ephemeral stream
Establishment (creation)
Historic property
Independent utility
Intermittent stream
Loss of waters of the United States
Non-tidal wetland
Open water

Ordinary high water mark Perennial stream Practicable Pre-construction notification Preservation Re-establishment Rehabilitation Restoration Riffle and pool complex Riparian areas Shellfish seeding Single and complete project Stormwater management Stormwater management facilities Stream bed Stream channelization Structure Tidal wetland Vegetated shallows Waterbody